



LAC LA BELLE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

www.llbmd.org

Commissioners Meeting
THURSDAY, September 18, 2014– 7:00 P.M.

Town of Oconomowoc Town Hall

6812 Brown Street
Oconomowoc, WI 53066

“The LLBMD seeks to promote environmentally conscious and fiscally responsible decisions by providing education, enhancing a healthy lake ecosystem and ensuring safe use of Lac La Belle for today and tomorrow.”

Agenda

1. Call to Order

Chair Dan Bauer called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M.

2. Roll Call of Commissioners

Present

Paul Carpenter

Dan Bauer

Karen Carr

Lou Morgan (exited the meeting 7:14 P.M. & returned 8:09 P.M.)

Dave Zimmermann

Terry Largent

Absent

Ryan Myhre

Guests:

Tom Steinbach, Operations Manager, Oconomowoc Wastewater Treatment Facility, City of Oconomowoc

Mark Frye, Director of Public Works, City of Oconomowoc

3. Comments from the Floor

There were no comments from the floor at this time.

4. Correspondence

Emails

Various emails from Kathy Buss, City of Oconomowoc, regarding lake levels:
(7/21, 7/30, 8/7, 8/15, 8/25, 8/28, 9/4, 9/10 and 9/16)

July 17, 2014 – Mike Jones, USDA, re: Goose Round-Up

July 19, 2014 – Julie Larsen re: Shoreland Restoration Program

July 23, 2014 – Jill Murphy, Village of LLB, re: Invoice from VLLB for CSRP

July 30, July 31 and August 7, 2014 - Peter Carpenter re: LLBMD website updates

August 5, 2014 – Jeff Hermann re: Runyard

August 7, 2014 – Lisa Conley re: Koi virus

August 8, 2014 – Amy Barrows, Waukesha County, re: Runyard Letter and Plan

August 11, 2014 – David Cullinane re: LLB Buoys

August 21, 2014 – Ryan Myhre re: 2013 LLBMD Audit

August 30, 2014 – Bill King re: LLB Buoys

September 2, 2014 – Lisa Conley re: CSRP Tour

September 11, 2014 – Mark Frye, City of Oconomowoc, re: Oconomowoc River Watershed Improvement Program

September 12, 2014 – Tom Steinbach, City of Oconomowoc, re: Oconomowoc River Watershed Improvement Program

September 17, 2014 – Bill King re: LLB Buoys

5. Approval of July 17, 2014 Meeting Minutes

D. Zimmermann moved to approve the minutes from the July 17, 2014 LLBMD meeting as presented. K. Carr seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

6. Review 2014 Annual Meeting & Organizational Meeting Minutes

Commissioners reviewed the 2014 Annual Meeting & Organizational Meeting Minutes. There were no comments or recommended changes at this time.

7. Treasurer's Report

P. Carpenter moved to approve the Treasurer's Reports for September, 2014 as presented. L. Morgan seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

8. Payment Authorizations

P. Carpenter moved to approve the Payment Authorizations for September, 2014 as presented. I. Morgan seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

9. Presentation by Tom Steinbach, Oconomowoc Wastewater Utility, Regarding Oconomowoc River Watershed Improvement Program

Tom Steinbach, Oconomowoc Wastewater Utility Operations Manager for the City of Oconomowoc, explained he was present to provide information about adaptive management opportunities within the Oconomowoc River Watershed Improvement Program (ORWIP). T. Steinbach explained there was a new program being offered through the City of Oconomowoc regarding improvement to the Oconomowoc River watershed. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was directing all states to evaluate their watersheds to determine impaired waters. Once the state did so, the EPA would direct the state to correct that problem. As a result, the Rock River watershed was studied from 2006-2012 and was chosen because of the impaired watersheds within it. Each sub-section of the Rock River watershed system, including several miles of streams and rivers, had different water quality limits that facilities were required to meet. Municipalities and wastewater facilities were required to use best management practices to obtain these levels and would also be required to do so in the future to lower these thresholds over time. The DNR has offered options to assist in obtaining the lower thresholds by examining the watershed pollutants and trying to mitigate those pollutant issues through watershed non-point source work.

T. Steinbach then reviewed the materials distributed at the meeting which summarized a presentation

given to the Town of Merton on July 24, 2014. The presentation included information about the Oconomowoc River Watershed, a compilation of adjacent land use, various watershed features, explanation of the term “impaired” as it related to waters in the watershed, overall health of the Oconomowoc River watershed, including total phosphorus measurements from 2014, health of the River at the confluence, impacts to and from various creeks within this watershed, current projects underway, various impacts to buffers and wetland areas, upgrades required of the Oconomowoc Treatment Facility, MS4 Permit Holders, Rock River TDML requirements, and options available at this time including Effluent Trading and Adaptive Management. MS4 permits were required for management of stormwater and WPDES permits were required for management of wastewater. Both types of permits would be required by municipalities in the future; however, the City of Oconomowoc was currently a MS4 permit holder.

T. Steinbach explained Effluent Trading and Adaptive Management. Effluent trading would allow individual land owners to enter into an agreement to remediate problem areas. This was based on modeling instead of evidence of water quality improvements. Adaptive Management was a watershed based approach where partners and stakeholders worked cooperatively to remediate problem areas. One example of the Adaptive Management practices included the Cooperative Streambank Restoration Project, also known as Golf Course TSS project in the presentation information. T. Steinbach further explained the advantages associated with Adaptive Management practices included actual water quality improvements, addressed remediation of problem areas throughout the watershed, reduced overall costs for pollutants removed, facilitated efforts between public and private entities, reduced duplication of efforts, and for MS4 permit holders, and could result in significant cost savings. Efforts were underway currently to work toward Adaptive Management practices, including participation in the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). The RCPP was a funded program that provided resources in the form of grants. The City of Oconomowoc was seeking support of the Oconomowoc River Watershed Improvement Program by reaching out to various agencies, entities, and stakeholders in the watershed with monetary or in kind services. He explained that the Oconomowoc River Watershed Improvement Program would allow the money to be spent where it would make a difference. If the monies were all spent in Oconomowoc and nothing was done upstream, issues would still remain upstream and continue to impact the lakes and rivers in the watershed downstream.

D. Zimmermann questioned “in kind services” in this matter. T. Steinbach explained in kind services might include working with residents to educate them on conservation actions and other types of public education about water quality issues. Water quality monitoring through the Citizen Monitoring program was another example. T. Steinbach explained effluent trading included the City paying a farmer to reduce the pollutant load into a stream through the purchase or donation of a buffer strip between the farm fields and the streambank. In exchange, there would be a credit in pounds of phosphorus allowed in the requirements. This was problematic because the City was responsible for direct monitoring and maintenance of the buffer strip and the water quality improvement would not be checked.

Discussion ensued regarding the issues associated with the cost of removal of phosphorus in wastewater treatment facilities and the impact of phosphorus bans on the removal costs. T. Steinbach explained there were programs offered to work with agricultural landowners regarding nutrient loading plans. In addition, there was an abundance of naturally occurring phosphorus in Wisconsin soils simply because of the agriculture throughout the state since its inception. With regard to program support, T. Steinbach noted cooperation could be assumed; however, it would require a collective effort to make an impact. He then explained the timeline for grant submission relative to the Oconomowoc River Watershed Improvement Program and requested consideration by

the Commission for supporting the program either monetarily or in kind services. M. Frye noted efforts would continue legislatively to continue protection of watersheds in the future.

D. Bauer thanked T. Steinbach and M. Frye for attending the meeting to provide information about the Oconomowoc River Watershed Improvement Program.

Discussion ensued regarding support for the Oconomowoc River Watershed Improvement Program. Various Commissioners noted in kind services were already taking place within the District and could continue to support this type of program. These services included:

- ongoing shoreland restoration efforts
- water quality monitoring & water clarity readings
- maintenance of the Cooperative Streambank Restoration Project (also known as Golf Creek TSS in the ORWIP presentation)
- Goose Roundup efforts as needed
- educational outreach and resource information provided through the LLBMD website and annual newsletter

- a. Discuss & Act on Letter of Support for Oconomowoc River Watershed Improvement Program

D. Zimmermann moved to draft a letter of support for the Oconomowoc River Watershed Program as presented to include in kind services and to be signed by LLBMD Chair Dan Bauer. K. Carr seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

10. Update on Tour of Cooperative Streambank Restoration Project - Golf Course Stream

D. Zimmermann explained a tour of the Cooperative Streambank Restoration Project along Golf Course stream had taken place on September 4, 2014. R. Myhre, K. Carr, D. Bauer and D. Zimmermann attended the tour. The project area looked good and the vegetation was higher than anticipated in its growth cycle. The project area had few areas left to complete and was anticipated to come in under budget. Overall, it was considered a success at this point in time.

11. Update on Lang Road Culvert

D. Zimmermann had contacted Town of Oconomowoc staff regarding the culvert under Lang Road. A vegetative strip was considered helpful and this area would be staked in the spring of 2015 so it was not destroyed during planting season.

12. Update on Navigational Buoys on Lac La Belle & Buoy Reimbursement Grant

P. Carpenter explained the buoy reimbursement grant required additional information. L. Morgan explained the buoys had been purchased at this time and awaited reimbursement. He stated he would assist in writing a grant to reimburse the purchase of seven buoys totaling \$791.00.

13. Update on 2014 Shoreland Restoration Program

K. Carr explained there were originally two participants interested in the 2014 Shoreland Restoration

Program; however, one had decided to postpone activity on their property. One participant remained interested and had provided required documentation to proceed. K. Carr stated she would provide an update on the next Commission meeting on planting the participant's site.

14. Update on Contacting Town of Oconomowoc Regarding Representation at LLBMD Meetings

D. Bauer explained he had discussed Town of Oconomowoc representation on the LLBMD Commission with John Koepke, Town of Oconomowoc Board member, since the last Commission meeting. A Town Board member had resigned and Terry Largent had been appointed to the Board. T. Largent had also agreed to attend the LLBMD Commission meetings to provide representation from the Town of Oconomowoc to the Commission. D. Bauer welcomed him to the Commission and noted T. Largent's volunteerism was appreciated.

15. Update on the LLBMD Website

S. Keefe, of Accurate Business Communications, Inc., explained the LLBMD website had been updated successfully as of September 6, 2014. New photos had been added to the site and the site should have a new look on the Home Page. In addition, the Home Page included historical access and the Google Map feature would function more effectively on mobile devices than in the past.

a. Topics for the website

P. Carpenter suggested information about the ORWIP be added to the website.

16. Set Next Meeting Date

The next meeting would be held on Thursday, October 16, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. at the Town of Oconomowoc Town Hall. It was suggested that the following Commissioners meeting be held in early 2015.

17. Agenda Topics for Next Regular Meeting

The following topics were suggested for inclusion on the next regular meeting agenda:

- Update On Navigational Buoys On Lac La Belle & Buoy Reimbursement Grant
- Update On 2014 Shoreland Restoration Program
- Discuss And Act On Application For Grant For Future Lake Study
- Discuss Commissioner Meeting Schedule For Remainder Of 2014
- Discussion On Commission Goals For 2015

18. Adjournment

K. Carr moved to adjourn from the September 18, 2014 Lac La Belle Management District Commissioners meeting. P. Carpenter seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:48 P.M.

Minutes prepared by:

Accurate Business Communications, Inc.